United Nations S/AC.44/2004/(02)/104

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 February 2005

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 9 February 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations has the honour to enclose herewith Jordan's report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

05-29891 (E) 020605 030605

Annex to the note verbale dated 9 February 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

[Original: Arabic]

Report of the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Affirming that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery constitutes a threat to international peace and security, and seeking to fulfil its international obligations in the areas of arms limitation and the elimination and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the Government of Jordan welcomes the adoption of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), which marks a new direction in the Council's activities to confront the dangers linked to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Middle East must become a nuclear-weapon-free zone in order for peace and security to be established in the region, as called for by the Security Council in resolution 687 (1991), adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. The Council notes in paragraph 14 thereof that the actions to be taken by Iraq to implement the resolution "represent steps towards the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles for their delivery and the objective of a global ban on chemical weapons". In that connection, the Government of Jordan welcomes the fact that all countries are cooperating in order to avert the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction among non-State actors.

Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), the Government of Jordan submits its report to the Committee on the measures that it has taken or intends to take to implement the resolution.

1. Prohibition against providing support to non-State actors

1.1 The Government of Jordan does not provide any form of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. Jordan, a country free from weapons of mass destruction, neither exports, nor produces nor possesses such weapons, and its defence policy is centred on preventive measures against such weapons.

1.2 The Government of Jordan refrains from using weapons of mass destruction or authorizing their transit — directly or indirectly — across national territory. It seeks neither to possess nor to acquire such weapons, nor does it intend to develop programmes or establish facilities relating to this type of weapon.

2. Jordanian law

2.1 The Government of Jordan, which is primarily concerned with maintaining the security of the country and the national territory and preserving international peace and security, adopts laws that acknowledge the country's international obligations, in particular those imposed by competent international organizations such as the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

2.2 In this context, Jordan has established a technical commission consisting of representatives of all the competent government services. It is responsible for follow-up of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and preparation of the required reports. To that end, the commission has drawn up a plan for reviewing national laws relating to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

2.3.a To monitor materials in connection with chemical weapons the Government of Jordan established, on 29 September 1998, a national commission responsible for dealing with OPCW. This commission, which is composed of civilians and members of the military, is tasked with: establishing contacts and coordinating its activities with OPCW; ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention and establishing the necessary implementation measures; overseeing measures for the verification of materials which enter or leave Jordanian territory, as well as the procedures relating to the production, transport, storage and exchange of such materials, in conformity with the Convention; and establishing specialized subsidiary bodies. These include the Legal Committee, responsible in particular for drafting the bill on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and the Technical and Administrative Committee, responsible for monitoring the lists of chemicals and for oversight of the factories referred to in the initial and annual declarations required under the Convention, and the follow-up of OPCW technical inspection activities as defined by the Convention.

After studying the activities conducted by the national Commission responsible for dealing with OPCW since the Commission's inception, the Technical and Administrative Committee proposed the creation of a general oversight mechanism to monitor the chemical substances targeted by the Convention, following the review and updating of the national legislation in force, in cooperation with the industrial sector.

2.3.b The Technical Committee, responsible for follow-up of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and the preparation of the related report of the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, issued a recommendation concerning the establishment of the committees responsible for cooperation with OPCW.

2.4.a Following the events of 11 September 2001 and the adoption by the Security Council of counter-terrorism resolutions, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan passed deterrent legislation providing for imprisonment or capital punishment for any person committing a terrorist act using a weapon classified as a weapon of mass destruction.

2.4.b In 2001, a law was adopted amending the Jordanian Penal Code in order to define terrorism and to impose stricter penalties in the case of recourse, or threat of recourse, to violence — whatever the motive or purpose — by an individual or a group, for the purpose of disrupting public order or social harmony, where the effect of such acts is to instil fear and terror in the population, jeopardize security or endanger human life, damage the environment or facilities or other property, public or private, or international facilities or diplomatic missions, or lead to the seizure and occupation of such property, or endanger national resources or hinder the implementation of the country's Constitution and legislation. The law provides for the death penalty in the following cases:

(a) Where the act causes the death of a human being;

(b) Where the act causes total or partial destruction of an occupied building;

(c) Where the act is perpetrated using explosive or inflammable materials, or toxic, incendiary, contaminant, bacteriological, chemical or radioactive and other similar materials.

2.4.c In addition, the amended Penal Code provides for sentences of forced labour for any person who knowingly manufactures, acquires or transports detonating devices or any of the materials referred to in paragraph 2.4.b(c) above, or any component thereof in order to commit a terrorist act or enable another person to do so.

2.4.d The amended Penal Code of 2001 imposes heavier sentences for any person furnishing assistance, support and weapons to terrorist groups, by establishing equivalent penalties for members of criminal or terrorist gangs or groups, on the one hand, and persons that provide them with assistance, support and weapons, on the other. Article 141 of the Code provides that any person who, without the agreement of the public authorities, constitutes or mobilizes armed gangs or equips or furnishes gangs with weapons and ammunition will go to prison for no less than five years.

2.4.e Article 145 of the same law amending the Penal Code prohibits the carrying of weapons or the possession of explosive or inflammable material, or of toxic or incendiary substances included in their composition or manufacture. The perpetrator of such acts faces a sentence of forced labour in addition to the sentence for the criminal act that was committed or about to be committed, even if the act was not fully carried out or failed to produce the expected result.

2.5.a With regard to the transfer, possession or use of radioactive sources or nuclear materials, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has adopted Act No. 29 (2001), on Nuclear Energy and Radiation Protection. It establishes the Jordanian Atomic Energy Agency and governs questions relating to the use of radioactive sources and nuclear materials, as well as the key stages involved in setting up a monitoring and inspection system in this field, including the control and use of nuclear waste, in conformity with the safety and security criteria pertaining to radioactive and nuclear materials and in coordination with the relevant authorities, in particular the Customs Service and other security services. This law conforms to the International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources issued by IAEA.

2.5.b In order to ensure that the conditions and requirements of public safety, radiation protection and nuclear security, and also of environmental protection and the protection of people's health and property against the dangers of pollution and exposure to ionizing radiation are met, article 15 of the Act on Nuclear Energy and Radiation Protection prohibits any person from establishing or operating any nuclear installation whatsoever in the territory of the Kingdom, or from transferring, importing or exporting any radioactive source or substance emitting ionizing radiation, or its use, processing, acquisition, use for commercial purposes, exploitation, leasing, transport, storage, modification, licensing or production, including by exploration, grinding, crushing, synthesis, mineralization or manufacture. The use of ionizing radiation and any related activity are also prohibited. Article 18 of the Act prohibits introduction into Jordanian territory of

any radioactive derivatives, such as radioactive waste or residue, or their use, processing, transport, storage, licensing or burial in that territory.

2.5.c Furthermore, article 23, paragraph (a), of the Act lists the penalties for infringements of the Act's provisions which may take the form of fines or imprisonment. The paragraph reads as follows:

> "Notwithstanding any harsher penalty under other legal provisions:
>
> "(a) Any person acting in breach of articles 15 and 18 of this Act shall face a prison sentence lasting at least one year and no more than three years and a fine of no less than 10,000 dinars and no more than 30,000 dinars, or both penalties combined".

2.6.a Act No. 21 (2001), on Import and Export Trade, based on a proposal by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, stipulates that imported and exported goods must satisfy public safety requirements and must comply with the provisions of relevant international agreements. Article 3 of the Act states as follows:

> "(a) The import of goods into the Kingdom is subject to no condition other than the requirement for an importer's identification card to be produced when the goods are cleared through customs and for duty to be paid in accordance with the relevant regulations;
>
> "(b) The export or re-export of goods from the Kingdom is subject to no condition other than the requirement for an exporter's identification card to be produced;
>
> "(c) The provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this article shall not be applicable to the following cases:
>
> "(i) Goods whose import or export is prohibited or strictly limited to a particular body, pursuant to the provisions of the present Act;
>
> "(ii) Goods whose import is subject to prior authorization in accordance with the provisions of the present Act."

2.6.b Articles 4 and 5 of the same Act stipulate that goods for which an import licence is not granted automatically must be specified and justified by the requirements of public safety, public health, public order, the protection of the environment or of national resources or security or by the fact that the goods in question are subject to a quota under current domestic legislation or international agreements.

2.6.c The Council of Ministers may, in accordance with article 6 of the Act and on the recommendation of the competent Department, prohibit the export or import of any item or restrict its import or export, entirely or in part, to a particular entity, in a manner to be determined by the Council of Ministers.

2.7.a Act No. 22 (2000), on Standards and Specifications, determines the criteria, specifications and technical standards applicable to goods, whether imported or manufactured locally, as well as the evaluation procedures corresponding to those standards and specifications, as stated in article 14 (a) of the Act:

> "(a) Procedures shall be established to evaluate compliance with international directives and recommendations, where appropriate, unless such international directives and recommendations are not applicable or are not

appropriate for the realization of particular goals such as safeguarding national security, prevention of fraud, protection of the health and safety of persons, animals and plants, protection of infrastructures or satisfying the needs of the Kingdom in areas such as finance, development and trade ..."

2.7.b In order to establish a national system of standards and specifications in accordance with international practices and to protect public health, the environment and public safety, while ensuring that goods comply with technical specifications, article 16 (a) of the same Act stipulates that:

"(a) Technical standards shall apply to locally manufactured products and similar imported products without any unjustified distinction, and no product or substance may be imported, produced, sold, offered for sale or transferred in any other way within the Kingdom unless it complies with the technical standards which are applicable to that product or substance."

2.7.c Article 30 of the same Act specifies the procedures to be followed in cases of non-compliance with technical standards: the product or substance in question is to be impounded, destroyed, re-exported or, following a decision to that effect, brought into compliance with those standards. In cases of non-compliance with the technical standards promulgated by the public body responsible for protecting the environment (currently the Ministry of the Environment), the place of manufacture of the product or substance concerned may be closed down by the authorities until such time as the offence ceases.

2.8.a As for import and export control operations, Act No. 20 (1998), on Customs, empowers customs officers to inspect persons, ships and merchandise, and confers on them the status of judicial police officers with the authority to investigate offences against customs regulations and to impound merchandise. Article 179 (a) of the Act provides as follows:

"Customs officers mandated to implement this Act and to combat contraband are authorized to inspect merchandise and means of transport and to search persons in accordance with the provisions of this Act and other instruments in effect. Transport operators are required to comply with orders from officers of the Customs Service or of the customs police, who are authorized to use all appropriate means to stop any transport operator who fails to obey their orders."

2.8.b Article 180 stipulates that:

"Customs officers are authorized to board any vessel which is in a Jordanian port or which enters or leaves such a port, to remain on board until the cargo is completely unloaded, to order the opening of the vessel's hold, cabins or stores and of any packages contained therein, to place seals on merchandise which is under quarantine, subject to very high duty, prohibited or covered by article 2 of this Act, and to require the captain of the vessel to produce the cargo manifest when the ship docks."

2.8.c Article 181 states as follows:

"Customs officers are authorized to board vessels in the customs zone in order to inspect them and to request the production of the cargo manifest and other documents required to be produced under this Act; should such documents not be produced or should the officers suspect the presence of

contraband or prohibited goods coming under the category of merchandise covered by article 2 of this Act, they are empowered to take all necessary measures, including the use of force, to impound the merchandise and to take the vessel to the nearest customs dock."

Article 182 (a) further states that:

"Investigations into contraband and other offences against customs regulations and the impounding of merchandise shall take place:

"(a) In the two customs zones, i.e. the land customs zone and the maritime customs zone;

"(b) In the customs-free area and in ports and airports and, in general, in all areas subject to customs surveillance, particularly public and private warehouses;

"(c) Outside the two aforementioned customs zones, to ensure the continued monitoring of contraband goods which have been observed in a customs zone in a situation that indicates the intention to smuggle."

2.9.a In the area of biological prevention, Act No. 54 (2002), on Public Health, empowers the director, physician or official mandated for that purpose to inspect any premises, including occupied premises, if they suspect that a person suffering from a contagious disease is present, to disinfect the premises and to take all appropriate measures to prevent the contamination of other persons or the propagation of the contagious disease. Should an epidemic occur or be propagated, the Ministry of Public Health shall take all necessary measures to prevent such propagation, particularly through the control of public and private sources of drinking water and of beverages, foodstuffs or other products which are likely to spread the disease. The Act also prohibits the use of products, other articles or premises which are contaminated and are likely to spread the epidemic, and prohibits making them available to or placing them under the control of others, on pain of the penalties provided for in the Act.

2.9.b Consequently, Regulation No. 30 (2003) on the authorization of private medical dispensaries prohibits the use of such dispensaries for purposes other than the diagnosis and treatment of illnesses. The Act also stipulates that such dispensaries may be inspected at any time.

2.9.c Harmful and dangerous substances and the movement of such substances are governed by Regulation No. 43 (1999), which defines procedures for movement, transportation and elimination of such substances, which are subdivided into harmful, dangerous, prohibited, useful substances and waste products. The law further defines the scientific and technical principles, criteria, means and methods to be complied with in the transportation, collection and storage of harmful and dangerous substances and the elimination of related waste, as well as methods to be applied for their transportation, collection and storage. The regulations also define appropriate sites for the elimination of harmful and dangerous substances and related waste, and designates precise areas for that purpose.

2.9.d The aforementioned regulation defines harmful, prohibited and controlled substances and related waste as follows:

- Harmful substance: any element, compound or mixture, whether natural or artificial, and related waste, which presents a danger to the environment or to any of its components and for the safety of living beings;
- Prohibited substance: any element or compound which is prohibited by the legislation in effect or by regional or international agreements to which the Kingdom is a party, owing to its detrimental effects on public health or on components of the environment;
- Controlled substance: a substance the use of which is controlled for health or environmental reasons, pursuant to a declaration by the competent body;
- Waste: any substance which cannot be disposed of at public rubbish dumps or into the sewerage system, owing to its dangerous characteristics, its harmful impact on the environment and the risk to the safety of living beings, and the treatment and elimination of which call for special means.

2.10 As for chemical, radiological and biological pollution and toxic gases, Act No. 18 (1999), on Civil Protection, makes the High Council for Civil Defence responsible for drawing up the necessary plans to deal with these dangers and guard against them, in cooperation with the competent specialized services. The Department of Civil Defence is required to take part in the detection of any chemical or radioactive leak, in collaboration with the public services which are competent to combat such accidents and eliminate their effects.

3. Effective measures

3.1.a With respect to measures taken to prevent terrorist groups from forming and arming themselves, the Jordanian security services monitor elements which pose a danger to the Kingdom's security, including anyone who has proven links to a terrorist activity or group or is suspected of having links to the trade in, or possession of, weapons for illegal purposes; this is done through the use of appropriate investigatory measures for the purposes of surveillance and monitoring.

3.1.b The Jordanian security services monitor all persons with links to a terrorist group or with members of such groups in other countries. To that end, they exchange information with the security services of friendly countries and with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). They also monitor the purchase and sale of raw materials used in the production of hazardous substances or explosives in order to ensure that they are not used to produce weapons of mass destruction.

3.2 The competent government services implement extremely strict security measures and conduct surveillance operations at the Kingdom's border points. They verify the authenticity of documents submitted and inspect suspicious cargo, including cargo in transit. To that end, highly advanced technical equipment for detecting forged documents and counterfeit currency has been installed at most of the Kingdom's border points, including Queen Alia International Airport. Thus, it is now possible to ensure that the technical and substantive aspects of any document are examined by a competent security official with appropriate technical training.

3.3.a In the past three years, radiological equipment for inspecting the cargo of trucks and other vehicles has been installed at a number of major border points, including Karameh, Jabir and Aqaba, and such equipment will soon be in place at all

border points. This equipment uses two types of rays — x-rays and gamma rays — to detect objects such as weapons, bombs and other explosives, and drugs. Border security stations have been set up to inspect trucks upon entry into Jordanian territory and to detect any attempt to import radioactive material illegally. Modern equipment has also been installed at all border points, including airports, so that initial spot checks for the presence of explosives or narcotics can be performed by trained security officials.

3.3.b With respect to monitoring at border points in order to detect and combat trafficking in persons or goods whose entry into the Kingdom is prohibited, the customs authorities use various types of x-ray cargo and baggage inspection equipment, mobile detection equipment and portable radiation detection devices to inspect vehicles, cargo and baggage. In addition 24-hour surveillance cameras have been installed in the public areas of customs posts, and the Government is currently setting up a satellite surveillance system to monitor goods in land transit. Special measures have also been taken at the ports to ensure surveillance of hazardous materials, whose trans-shipment and storage are under the constant supervision of inspectors who are trained chemists.

3.4 The Kingdom's borders are defended by the armed forces who, over the years, have shown themselves to be extremely competent in preventing the transport of persons or weapons through the Kingdom to neighbouring countries or from those countries to the Kingdom. The operations of these forces are regulated by various provisions, including Act No. 46 (2001) on the Jordanian Armed Forces. The competent units have standing instructions on border defence, which specify the measures to be taken to prevent all forms of trafficking and infiltration and the procedure to be followed in arresting individuals or impounding goods which cross the border illegally. Since early 2003, a highly efficient surveillance group (C41SR) has been responsible for surveillance at the borders in order to combat all forms of trafficking and infiltration.

3.5.a With respect to transport security and monitoring procedures, directives concerning the transport of hazardous materials and explosives were issued on 18 July 2004 pursuant to article 46, paragraph 2 (a), of Act No. 47 (2001) on Traffic, which in article 1 defines hazardous materials as "any element or compound or mixture or waste whatever, whether natural or artificial, which poses a threat to the environment or any part thereof or to the safety of living beings by reason of its toxicity or its flammable, explosive or corrosive nature". These directives specify the conditions for road transport of hazardous or explosive materials within the Kingdom. Instructions concerning the required labelling of hazardous or explosive materials during transport have also been issued.

3.5.b In this connection, the directives relating to the protection of convoys, issued on 9 January 1995, stipulate that public safety units must provide appropriate protection to convoys crossing Jordanian territory. They must ensure the convoys' security, guard them and guide them pursuant to regulations governing the supervision of convoys and stipulating their routes and stopping-points.

3.5.c Directives concerning the supervision and guarding of convoys transporting imported or exported explosives were issued on 15 March 1999. They ensure appropriate protection during the transport through and exit from Jordan of cargoes of exported explosives and during the entry into Jordan and transport of cargoes of explosives en route to businesses and other establishments authorized to import such products. These directives call for supervision of the loading and unloading of

cargoes, verification and inventorying of the quantity and type of products imported or exported, verification of the accompanying documentation presented by specialized convoy drivers, and the escort of convoys by fully manned patrol vehicles with radio communication capacity.

3.6.a With respect to measures taken to ensure monitoring and follow-up in respect of such products, the Department of Civil Protection is responsible for developing prevention and protection measures for the granting of permits for the production, storage and sale of explosives, pyrotechnical devices, chemicals and other hazardous materials. It is also empowered to issue directives specifying the prevention and protection measures to be taken by enterprises which produce, store, sell or transport hazardous, chemical and other similar substances.

3.6.b The Department of Civil Protection, through the Prevention and Protection Service, ensures follow-up to the application of preventive measures and employs officers and other specialized staff for that purpose. This department is involved in the work of a number of local bodies, including the Commission on Explosives, the Working Group responsible for reviewing and updating the National Chemicals Registry, the National Commission on Harmful or Hazardous Substances, the Central Commission for Licensing the Production of Toxic Substances, the Commission for the Import, Transport and Storage of Chemicals and the National Commission for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

3.7.a Ministry of Industry and Trade Directive No. 1 of 1999 on imports stipulates that certain chemicals specified therein cannot be cleared through customs without authorization from the Ministry of Health or the Department of General Security, as applicable. There is also a list of products which may not be imported in any quantity.

3.7.b With respect to measures taken to ensure monitoring of chemicals, article 44 of Act No. 54 (2002) on Public Safety states that "the Ministry is responsible for monitoring the import of chemicals which are prohibited or whose import, export and movement are regulated in the interests of public health".

3.7.c Article 46 of this Act states that "notwithstanding any other legislative provisions, business owners are responsible for providing the Ministry with the following information according to a schedule established by the Minister:

> "(a) The chemicals in the business's possession, the products in the manufacture of which they are used, the quantities sold and the buyers thereof;
>
> "(b) The composition of each chemical and the chemical formula of its production, subject to the need to protect industrial secrets; and
>
> "(c) Any other information required in the interests of public health."

3.7.d Article 47 of the Act states that "the competent Ministry officials are authorized to perform inspections of any establishment to ensure that its use of chemicals poses no threat to public health and conforms to the criteria established by the Ministry for that purpose. These officials are also authorized to take samples of chemicals in order to analyse them at the establishment's expense".

3.8 The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has undertaken to develop a national preparation plan in the event of the use of weapons of mass destruction, in cooperation with the institutions that would be involved in responding to such an eventuality. This plan recommends that rapid-response teams

should be formed in all parts of the Kingdom. Training workshops for these teams were held in northern, central and southern Jordan in 2003 and 2004. All the agencies involved in rapid response and on-site action training at the national level are represented on the teams.

4. Preparation of reliable country inspection lists

4.1 The Ministry of Public Health publishes lists of chemicals whose use is regulated in accordance with article 45 of Act No. 54 (2002), on Public Health, which stipulates that it is the responsibility of the Minister, on the recommendation of the Director, to publish and modify lists of banned or regulated chemicals and to prohibit the importation or circulation of any chemical not included in the lists if he considers it harmful to public health.

4.2 In accordance with article 7 of Directive No. 1 (1999) on imports, the Ministry of Industry and Trade publishes lists of goods whose importation requires prior authorization from the competent authorities and lists of goods whose importation is prohibited or reserved for specific parties to the exclusion of all others.

4.3 With regard to radioactive materials, the Jordanian Atomic Energy Agency, through a system of inspection and licensing, compiles an inventory of and registers all the radioactive sources in use in the country and classifies and updates relevant data on them in accordance with the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources established by the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Jordanian Agency also conducts periodic inspections or spot checks, as needed, in order to verify the status of radioactive sources, ensure their safety and meet any security and prevention requirements.

4.4 In 2004, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan issued instructions for stricter measures to be taken in respect of imports and exports to prevent them from falling into the hands of terrorists who might use them for illegal purposes. To this end, it has compiled a list of materials whose export and import require special security clearance, a list of materials which can be imported and exported after verification of the quantities imported or manufactured and the quantity sold, by means of special declarations providing precise information regarding the buyer to the security services, and a list of materials whose composition has to be modified.

4.5 A project on the management of hazardous chemicals is being implemented in cooperation with scientific entities and other competent authorities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with a view to the amalgamation of the aforementioned lists and the electronic networking of the institutions concerned.

4.6 The Technical Committee responsible for overseeing the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and preparing the related report of the Government of Jordan for submission to the Security Council committee has recommended a comprehensive review of all lists on weapons of mass destruction and their consolidation.

5. International obligations and commitments

5.1 The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan reaffirms its commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

5.2 The position of the Government of Jordan regarding weapons of mass destruction is based on the conviction that such weapons are dangerous and pose a threat to international peace and security. That conviction is confirmed by Jordan's accession to the relevant international conventions and instruments and by its active participation in and positive contribution to the related organizations.

5.3 The Government of Jordan has acceded to the following instruments relating to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction:

- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed on 12 January 1993, acceded to on 29 October 1997 and published in the *Official Gazette* of 1 December 1997;
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, signed on 26 September 1996 and acceded to on 25 August 1998;
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, signed on 7 October 1968 and ratified on 2 November 1970;
- Additional Protocol to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 15 April 1997, signed on 28 July 1998 and ratified on 28 July 1998;
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, signed on 10 April 1972 and acceded to on 30 May 1975;
- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, signed on 22 March 1989 and acceded to on 21 December 1994;
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, adopted on 10 September 1998 and acceded to on 22 July 2003.

5.4.a The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan intends to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted at Vienna on 26 November 1979, whose provisions are currently under review by the competent authorities.

5.4.b The Government of Jordan is also making determined efforts within the League of Arab States to prepare a draft convention making the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction.

5.5 In confirmation of the foregoing, the Technical Committee responsible for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and the preparation of the related report of the Government of Jordan recommends that national committees should be set up to review all international conventions prohibiting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in order to ascertain whether the Royal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan should accede to instruments to which it is not a party and to disseminate instruments which the Kingdom has signed.

5.6.a Regarding the awareness of importers and exporters and of the public at large of the import and export obligations incumbent on them under the laws and conventions, article 14 of Act No. 21 (2001), on Imports and Exports, stipulates that it is the responsibility of the competent authorities to disseminate the instructions

and regulatory decisions adopted in implementation of the provisions of the Act and its regulatory instruments in the *Official Gazette* and to specify the date of their entry into force. The ministries and other competent departments are required to publish all the instructions and laws on their website.

5.6.b The Technical Committee responsible for monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and writing the report of the Government of Jordan to the Security Council committee established for that purpose has recommended that the Ministry of Industry and Trade, in cooperation with the Association of Exporters, should organize meetings with exporters and distribute information brochures on measures with which they must comply.

6. Forms of cooperation, including at the multilateral level

6.1 The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is currently conducting a comprehensive review of legislation relating to the implementation of this resolution, particularly the laws and regulations dealing with export control, and is ready to cooperate with countries which are able to provide assistance, in terms of either legislation or operational skills and resources, with a view to implementation of the resolution.

6.2.a The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is cooperating with the United States export control and border monitoring programme to conduct, within the Kingdom, an integrated programme for improving the capacity of Jordanian border posts to prevent weapons or materials used in the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction from entering or leaving the country and to ensure their safety.

6.2.b In cooperation with the aforementioned programme, training courses have been organized within the Kingdom and abroad for border post officials and their superior officers. The United States has also provided to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan a number of electronic surveillance devices and a vehicle for inspecting containers and other equipment for improving the capacity of the border posts to provide border security and ensure the safety of goods.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan also maintains communication links for cooperation with the European Union and its training programmes for the physical protection of materials relating to weapons of mass destruction.

6.3.a In the context of Arab cooperation to combat weapons trafficking, article 2 of the Arab anti-terrorism treaty of 1998 stipulates that the manufacture, trafficking or possession of weapons, munitions, explosives or other products used in committing acts of terrorism, even if politically motivated, cannot be considered political crimes.

6.3.b Pursuant to article 2 of the same treaty, Arab States are committed to improving and strengthening their systems for detecting the transport, import, export or stockpiling of weapons, munitions, explosives and other means of aggression, murder and destruction and to adopting measures for customs control at border posts in order to prevent transfers between States parties or to third States, unless the purpose is indisputably legal.

6.3.c Pursuant to article 4 of the same treaty, the States parties cooperate in order to prevent and eliminate terrorist crimes by sharing information on the activities of the groups which commit them, the origin of their armaments and the types of weapons,

munitions, explosives and other means of aggression, murder and destruction at their disposal.

6.3.d Each State party also undertakes to provide any other State party with any information or documents in its possession which would be of service in seizing weapons, munitions, explosives, equipment or funds that have been or may be used to commit terrorist crimes.

6.4 Conscious of the need to work with its neighbours in order to ensure transport safety, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has signed a memorandum of agreement on the signs to be used in transporting hazardous goods or explosives on the highways of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Lebanese Republic in order to standardize the applicable directives aimed at ensuring road safety in those countries. A system for monitoring the import, export and transit of hazardous goods was developed and tested over a period of three months, beginning on 19 September 2004, in the region of Aqaba, under the supervision of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, in cooperation with the Ports Corporation and the security services.

6.5 Desirous of strengthening the practical control aspects of the movement of hazardous goods and their effects, Jordan has participated in several international and regional conferences and seminars on the subject, and it hosted from 14 to 16 October 2004 a second International Conference, which dealt with the environmental and legislative dimensions of the movement of hazardous substances.